

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co. Incorporated.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEMBER NEVADA PRESS ASSN

W. W. BOOTH, EDITOR AND MANAGER

Terms of Subscription by Mail for Daily Bonanza:
 One Year.....\$12.00 Three Months.....\$3.00
 Nine Months.....\$9.00 One Month.....\$1.00
 Six Months.....\$6.00 One Week.....\$.20
 Delivered by Carrier, \$1.25 per Month.

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Entered at the postoffice in Tonopah as second-class matter.

PICK UP THESE BARGAINS

COMPARISON of prices of Tonopah mining shares between those of today and of six months ago, shows that there is not an advance commensurate with the ratio of increase in the price of silver. Only one conclusion can be reached and that is that the mining stocks are at present on the bargain counter.

The most reasonable explanation is that the war stocks in the east, which offer such enormous, but uncertain profits, are absorbing the investment money of the country. But there will be a general getting from under when peace is in sight, and that will probably be before the end of the year. Then there will be a swing in favor of mining, particularly silver stocks. When this time comes the people who buy now and hold will at least double their capital. Now is the time to load up on the better class of Tonopahs, and the Bonanza doesn't necessarily mean alone those that are at present selling at the highest price. There are lots of the companies that will be in ore by that time and in little stocks, when they do move, is where the quick money lies.

PITTMAN'S LAND BILL SHOULD BE DEFEATED

"CONFESSION is good for the soul," says an old adage, and we have a confession to make. The policy of the Free Press is to advocate any measure that will benefit this community or the State of Nevada. We have unhesitatingly fought the corporations of Elko, giving freely of our time and money to bring about a better condition. We confess that from a financial standpoint that it would have been better for the coffers of the paper had we kept silent. We have earnestly sought to bring about a change in the conditions, and when we began our battles we were almost alone in our fight. But there has been a steady change in the public sentiment, and today the public is with us and we are very confident that in a very few months we will secure relief from at least two of our public utilities, says the Elko Free Press.

Politics has had nothing to do with our line of action. We have supported and helped to elect certain officials, who, after they had been installed in office, entirely forgot that we had materially assisted in their election. But this did not in the least dampen our enthusiasm for progress. And while we are intensely partisan, when it comes to national politics, we have recently supported Senator Pittman in his efforts to pass his land grant bill. Our understanding of the bill was that Nevada would be benefited. This being the case, we lined up on the side of the Democratic senator, although at the time he was elected we heartily opposed him. The very fact that Nevada was to have seven millions of acres of land, worth on an average of at least two dollars per acre, giving our state the immense sum of \$14,000,000, appealed to us. The interest on this vast sum would have been sufficient to pay the expenses of the state government. In fact it sounded too good, and we have taken the time to delve more deeply into the matter.

The one thing Nevada needs more than anything else is people, new settlers who will make this state their home, who will expend their time and energy in tilling the soil and make our deserts into green farms. In order to induce them to come to this state we must hold out inducements, must make it easy for them to obtain land.

If this land bill of Senator Pittman's becomes a law, it will mean that the grant of 7,000,000 acres will be taken from the best portions of the state, and the lands that are left will be undesirable for homes. According to Senator Pittman's own statement, made on the floor of the senate on February 7th, this 7,000,000 acres will be bought, not by prospective settlers, but by the owners of lands now living in the state. In reply to a query of a brother senator, Pittman replied, "that in my opinion they (meaning persons who already own farming lands in Nevada), would be the chief purchasers of the land."

He also stated that the lands embraced in this land grant cannot be homesteaded or entered as desert lands.

In other words the best sections of the state are taken away from the prospective settler and given to the big men who already have more land than they can profitably handle, men who have the money to buy the lands offered by this grant.

The government reports for the year that has just passed tells us that for the first time in history Nevada ranks second in the growth of its population. It must be from the fact that it is practically the only state in which there still remains millions of acres of desirable farming lands that can be homesteaded. Let us take the reports of the United States land office that is located in Elko. But two years have elapsed since this office has been opened up, and thousands upon thousands of acres of land have been filed on by settlers, practically all of whom are from other states. In 1914 there were 571 entries filed in this office; in 1915 there were 506 entries. The total amount of land taken up by the settlers for these two years were around 200,000 acres.

It has been estimated that each settler will average a family of five; this means that in the past two years the population of this county has increased, by reason of new settlers, 5,585. In ten years it means that the population of the county will be doubled. But this is not the main benefit; these people cultivate their land, they bring to market products that will easily total a million dollars a year; and by reason of permanently improving the country they are of untold and lasting benefit. The amount of money that the sale of the seven millions of acres of land would bring the state is absolutely nothing compared to the benefit that the state would derive from the permanent residence of 5,585 new settlers.

Nevada has a total acreage of 55,502,439; just a trifle over half of the state has been surveyed; and less than one-tenth of the land is owned by people who live here and make Nevada their home. Elko county is the second largest county in the state, with an area of 7,206,371 acres, of which there still remains unsurveyed 1,917,323 acres. In the surveyed lands are all of the Southern Pacific lands, extending 20 miles on each side of the track, the bulk of which remains in the possession of the railroad. Each alternate section of this land belong to the government and much of it is suitable for dry farming purposes. A settler can come in and file on either a homestead, of 160 acres, or he can enter a desert claim of 320 acres. If he desires he can buy the railroad land adjoining his farm, and by this means get possession of a big ranch. In other words, the conditions are ideal for the homesteader in this state—if he understands farming and will work.

So in conclusion we want to say that we did not understand Pittman's land bill, and we endorsed it thinking it a good proposition for the state. But now we want to go on record that we believe it would be a calamity if this bill should become a law. It would mean the stoppage of the influx of new settlers who are just beginning to come to Nevada; it would create a condition that would take us years and years to overcome. We urge upon every one of our readers to write to their congressman, or any congressman they may know, urging the defeat of this vicious bill.

It may be that this measure has been introduced merely for political purposes, but as it has passed the senate there is grave danger of its passing the lower house.

It is a bill intended to benefit a favored few.

OFFICERS INSTALLED

Sagebrush lodge, No. 638, International Association of Machinists, held a meeting Wednesday night and installed the following officers. Past President Ellis was the installing officer; M. E. Smith, president; Jas. Ellis, vice-president; C. E. Davis, financial secretary; N. Whitney, recording secretary; W. N. Anderson, conductor; Dave Milne, sentinel; Carl Frembling, C. A. Greenleaf and A. W. Wilson, trustees.

READY WITH CONTRIBUTION

Governor Boyle has been unofficially advised that Nye, Elko, Humboldt, White Pine, Mineral, Clark, Lincoln and Lander counties have made provision for their contribution to the campaign fund for the extermination of the coyote, by the creation of emergency measures and otherwise.

—Appeal.

If you want the telegraph and local news—try the Bonanza.

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The Lanai Cafe

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—that's why we unhesitatingly recommend this meritorious merchandise to you

PROUTY'S UNION DRUG STORE

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—We Pay Parcels Post—

CAMPBELL & KELLY FOUNDRY and MACHINE SHOP

"Tried in the Fire"

TAKING ORDERS AND FILLING THEM
 AUTO REPAIRS A SPECIALTY

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FRESH MEATS

FISH - and - POULTRY

We Handle Only First-Class Nevada Beef

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The Most up-to-date house in town

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